

COUNTERFEITER IS SON OF DULUTH MAN

H. RABINOWITZ, JEWISH SHOCHET, ROBBINS' FATHER

Man Arrested in Chicago Is Identified Through Efforts of News Tribune.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS KEEP PARENTS 'IN DARK'

Mother Clings to the Belief That Her Boy Is Innocent.

Samuel "Robbins," age 22, self-confessed maker of a quarter of a million dollars of counterfeit paper money and Minnesota state bonds, a prisoner of the Chicago police, was identified yesterday—through the efforts of the News Tribune—as Samuel Rabinowitz, son of Heiman Rabinowitz, 117 West Fourth street. The father, when the picture of "Robbins" was shown to him, immediately recognized it as that of his son. The elder Rabinowitz is a Jewish "shochet."

Although two brothers and a sister of "Robbins" or Rabinowitz, had learned through the newspapers of his arrest and the charge of counterfeiting, his parents were ignorant of it until a News Tribune representative carried the information to them last night. They had believed Samuel was working in a Detroit automobile factory.

Came From Chicago.

Rabinowitz came to Duluth from Chicago five months ago. He lived but a few days at his parents' home, then took a room in the boarding house at 28 West Second street. He left for Detroit about six weeks ago, the father said.

"But we did not see him to tell him goodby before he went away," Rabinowitz added. "No, we did not have a quarrel."

Lack of room in the Rabinowitz home, the father explained, was the reason the son lived apart from the family. There had never been any ill feeling between the boy and them, other members of the family said. That there had ever been a quarrel between parents and son or that he had been ordered from the house was also vigorously denied.

The name "Robbins" was taken by the boy "because it was shorter," the father explained. There was no other reason.

None of the family suspected Samuel ever took a hand in any illegal business, especially the counterfeiting to which, Chicago police say, he confessed.

Always Was Good Boy.

"He was always a good boy," was the father's comment. "I don't know what to think."

"I can't believe my boy did such a thing," the mother declared.

"He must have fallen in with bad company in Chicago," the oldest brother, Jacob, said.

The other brother, David, and sis-

COUNTERFEITER HELD AT CHICAGO SON OF H. RABINOWITZ, DULUTH

Father Tells News Tribune He Supposed Youth Known as Robbins Was Working in Detroit Automobile Factory. Brothers Visited Room Where Money Was Made.

ter Katherine, offered no comment. The brothers declared that during frequent visits to Samuel's West Second street room they had never seen machines or devices that they could connect with the making of spurious money.

A camera, one of them said, was the most formidable of Samuel's possessions.

During his five months stay here, Samuel worked as an automobile repair man in Duluth and Superior garages and for a time was employed by the Greer Printing company, 124 West Second street.

Was Expert Photographer.

He was an expert amateur photographer, knew something of etching, was a fair penman, and an omnivorous reader, Jacob said.

"I used to see him writing when I went there," the brother ventured. "What he was writing I don't know. Neither did I pay much attention to the kind of material he was writing on. I also saw him reading books. I can't read English very much myself so didn't know what kind of books they were."

The brother averred he met two men several times in Samuel's room, but could not recall their names. Neither could he supply anything like a satisfactory description. "They were young men between 25 and 30," he said.

Visits between Rabinowitz and his parents always were at their home. "He came a couple of times to visit us," the father said. "I never went to his room."

Family Displays Stolidity.

It was a strange family group that learned of a son and brother's alleged criminal escapades, a gathering, part of which had suspected the truth, the others totally ignorant of anything wrong whatsoever, but all of whom heard the news with absolutely no display of feeling or excitement, or even incredulity. The information was received with the utmost stolidity.

Only the younger members of the Rabinowitz family knew of Samuel's arrest in Chicago. For two days they had anxiously scanned the papers for every scrap of news to learn whether the "Robbins" really was their brother. They more than half suspected, however. At night there were conferences, after the parents slept, they said, when the brothers and sister marvelled and made conjectures as to the inside facts, but not a word was said to father or mother.

"We didn't want to tell them," the son Jacob said. "We were afraid. It might not be so. And we didn't want father to know anything about it anyway."

The father had little to say when the truth finally was told him. He fingered the photograph obtained by the police at the Second avenue West room, and said, almost indifferently, "That's he."

"Why do you ask? What is this picture for?"

When told of his son's arrest and

his alleged counterfeiting activities, the father seemed to comprehend but little.

Was Killing Chickens.

At the time he was at the meat market of L. Polinsky & Co., 32 West First street, killing chickens, Rabinowitz is a "shochet" or Jewish meat cutter, an office prescribed by the Hebrew religion. He immediately hurried home to inform his wife.

"No, no, that's not so," the mother said. "I can't believe my boy did such a thing."

The son Jacob told of the family's and Samuel's history. The family, it seems, came to America from Russia eight years ago. After a short visit at the home of a relative in Chicago, the Rabinowitzes came immediately to Duluth. Samuel was left in Chicago with an uncle. He was educated there and learned the printing business and auto repair work.

Last fall, though, his brother said, Samuel came to Duluth. The family then occupied a smaller house and kept boarders. There was no place for the son so he took the room in the West Second street boarding house.

"He was a good boy," Jacob said. "He never drank, never smoked and never gambled. He worked always and stayed a whole lot in his room. The last week he was here I went to his room three times. I saw two men there then. They had been there before. I don't know who they were or what they did."

"As I said, he read and wrote very much, but I never saw any machines or other things there. Then he went away. He said he was going to do automobile repair work in Detroit. We have not heard from him since."

Samuel, the brother said, used the name "Robbins" only among his gentile friends, and with the father's consent.

The parents are eagerly awaiting word direct from the son or the Chicago police, though they have made up their minds that the "Robbins" under arrest is their son.

"Brains of Gang."

Rabinowitz, who is called "the brains" of the counterfeiter's gang," is said to have confessed all to the Chicago police. According to them, he said he made all the money in Duluth, hiring two men to assist him. Believing these may be Duluthians, the local police have wired for their photographs and Bertillon measurements. A local investigation has been started.

It developed yesterday that the men were arrested because they did not have a genuine \$10 bill to pay for their room and the landlady held the counterfeit-filled trunk in payment.

When the story of Robbin's identification as a Duluth man was told to local police, they said, his purpose in coming here undoubtedly was to manufacture the "money" as far away as possible from where he intended to "shove" it.